

Message Text

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67

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

DOT-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 SS-15 NSC-05 L-03 H-02

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R 280902Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9164

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, OCLR, UR

SUBJ: JOHN DEERE AND COMPANY OVERFLIGHT REQUEST

REF: MOSCOW 0480, STATE 008365

1. EMBOFF WAS INFORMED DURING CONVERSATION ON JANUARY 27 WITH SINITSYN, USA DIVISION, MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS THAT OVERFLIGHT REQUEST FOR FEBRUARY 2 OF JOHN DEERE AND COMPANY HAS BEEN REFUSED WITH NO REASON GIVEN. AFTER PRESSING FOR FURTHER EXPLANATION, SINITSYN SAID THAT IN FUTURE FLIGHT REQUESTS COULD BE EXPEDITED AND WOULD HAVE A BETTER CHANCE FOR APPROVAL IF US FIRM "IRONED OUT" IN ADVANCE WITH HOST MINISTRY OR STATE COMMITTEE ITS DESIRE FOR SUCH A FLIGHT. EMBOFF THEN QUERIED WHETHER THIS WAS A NEW DEVELOPMENT AND IF MFA WERE NOW ALTERING ITS REGULATIONS ON OVERFLIGHT REQUESTS. SINITSYN INSISTED NO CHANGE HAD TAKEN PLACE AND THAT APPLICATION PROCEDURE WOULD REMAIN SAME IN FUTURE. MFA COULD CONTINUE TO CONSIDER ALL PROPERLY FILED REQUESTS BUT HE REPEATED THE US FIRM SHOULD MAKE KNOWN IN ADVANCE TO SOVIET HOST ITS DESIRE FOR PRIVATE OVERFLIGHT.

2. COMMENT - EMBASSY WILL MONITOR SITUATION TO DETERMINE IF A PATTERN OF REFUSALS NOW DEVELOPS. RECORD
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OVER PAST SIX WEEKS IS MIXED WITH COCA COLA REQUEST

BEING APPROVED AND PHILIP MORRIS AND DEERE BEING
REFUSED. EACH PRIVATE FLIGHT APPROVAL APPARENTLY
INVOLVES CONSIDERABLE INTER-MINISTERIAL COORDINATION
BY MFA. IN VIEW OF SIGNIFICANT INCREASE IN NUMBER OF
OVERFLIGHT REQUESTS BY AMERICAN FIRMS OVER
PAST SIX MONTHS, MFA MAY NOW BE ATTEMPTING TO BE MORE
SELECTIVE AND GET WORD OUT THAT INVITATION TO VISIT
USSR IS NOT AUTOMATIC APPROVAL FOR PRIVATE FLIGHT. HOW
SOVIET HOST ORGANIZATIONS WILL REACT WHEN AMERICAN
CHIEF EXECUTIVES REFUSE TO FLY COMMERCIAL TO USSR, IF
THAT HAPPENS, MAY WELL BECOME ANOTHER FACTOR FOR MFA TO
CONSIDER IN FUTURE.
STOESSEL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FLIGHT CLEARANCES, AIR SCHEDULES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 JAN 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976MOSCOW01217
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760032-1003
From: MOSCOW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760114/aaaaalpm.tel
Line Count: 74
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 MOSCOW 480, 76 STATE 8365
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <05 MAY 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <17 MAY 2004 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: JOHN DEERE AND COMPANY OVERFLIGHT REQUEST
TAGS: EAIR, OCLR, UR, US, DEERE & CO
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006